You may remove this outer cover from the staples, if you wish, and separate the pages along the crease.

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"FIRST" INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE UFO PHENOMENON - (commentary by J. Allen Hynek) Although there have been other "first" international congresses about UFOs (in France, for example), the week-long congress in Acapulco, April 17 - 23 was truly international even though a great many countries were not represented (England, Japan, and Australia, for example). Countries represented were: U.S.A., Mexico, Colombia, Spain, Puerto Rico, Grenada, Guatemala, Canada, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, and Argentina. By proxy, England was represented by Ian Norrie, a British engineer now living in Mexico, France by Jacques Vallee, and Hungary by Colman von Keviczky. The undertaking was a most ambitious one, too ambitious as it proved for the time allowed for its organization. An international congress requires at least a year in its preparation to allow participants ample time to make long range travel plans and to arrange their personal schedules. This was certainly one of the lessons of the Acapulco conference.

The congress was organized by Mr. Guillermo Bravo, a Mexico City businessman, whose energy and sheer audacity in bringing the congress off was most remarkable. The degree of success of the conference belongs largely to him, but his utterly loyal staff of workers made the actual congress possible. The congress brought together a diversity of viewpoints and enabled researchers from a number of countries to exchange on a personal level.

Papers presented are too numerous to mention here: the week-long daily sessions were long, often extending into the late evening hours. Excellent papers, of widely differing viewpoints, were presented by Vallee, Keel, Spaulding, Andrus, Hauck, and several other prominent workers in the field.

Sir Eric Gairy, prime minister of Grenada, who last year brought the UFO phenomenon to the floor of the U.N. made a strong plea for further support when he intends to bring the matter once again to the floor of the U.N. next fall. The congress unanimously passed a resolution commending Sir Eric for his pioneering effort and pledged support for his efforts.

UFO'S AND CIA INVOLVEMENT - According to the "Washington Whispers" feature of the *U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT* of April 18, 1977, the government is expected to release "unsettling disclosures" about UFOs based on information from the CIA "before the end of the year". IUR contacted the editor of this feature who refused to reveal any additional information but he did affirm that their unnamed source was sufficiently reliable to warrant the comment. In an effort to substantiate the rumor that President Carter's Science Adviser Designate, Dr. Frank Press, is to serve as liason between relevent governmental agencies and the concerned public; Dr. Press personally indicated a lack of awareness of any such proposal. So, the matter remains enigmatic at this time.

MORE ON THE "UMMO" AFFAIR - A copy of a first generation photograph of the alleged incident at San Jose de Valderas, Spain, in 1967 has been subjected to sophisticated digital analysis techniques by William Spaulding and associates of Ground Saucer Watch in Arizona. A battery of tests designed to yield enhanced image information from conventional photographs has led to the conclusion that the "saucer" in the picture is a model measuring less than eight inches in diameter, supported by a thread. More information on these new photo-analysis

INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER T.M.

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A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE UFO PHENOMENON
REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS & ANALYSES

"There is no hope of advance in science without a paradox."—Niels Bohr

CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN PENNSYLVANIA

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NORAD AND UFO SURVEILLANCE

The role of the North American Air Defense Command and its potential for aiding the UFO enigma

PLUS:

Book Review
Foreign Forum
UFO Profile: March, 1977
Latest UFO News

Editor-in-chief: Dr. J. Allen Hynek; **Managing Editor:** Allan Hendry

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Subscriptions: $12.00 per year in the United States and Canada (plus $3.00 foreign), and $20.00 for two years (plus $6.00 foreign). All notices of change of address must be sent six weeks in advance and accompanied by old and new addresses. J. Allen Hynek, *Chairman of the Board*; David J. Baldwin, *President and Publisher*; Carl M. Teutsch, Jr., *Executive Vice-President*; Harvey X. Koloms, *Secretary/Treasurer.*

EDITORIAL

by Dr. J. Allen Hynek

The recent survey of members of the American Astronomical Society by Dr. Sturrock of Stanford University on their attitudes about UFO's furnishes us with an excellent example of the "theorem" that scientists will often express *in private* an interest in a controversial or "taboo" subject but will not discuss such interest "in committee" before a group of his peers. A striking 52% (or 1356) of the astronomers queried answered, yet only two allowed their names to be used. Thus, 99.99% did not want the public, and hence their peers, to know how they answered the questionnaire. This is particularly interesting since more than half of the astronomers felt the UFO problem was worthy of scientific study, but they were unwilling to let their feelings known to others—a striking example of the "committee complex": express the "safe" opinion to your peers and thus preserve your image as a "no-nonsense", practical, down-to-earth scientist.

The "committee complex" may well have played its part in the Condon Committee and much earlier in the Robertson Panel, the recommendation of which set the pattern for the Air Force's handling of UFO reports.

Oddly enough, there has always been *private* interest in UFO's among astronomers. In a very confidential survey of 44 astronomers I made in 1952, I found that five, or eleven percent, had made sightings they couldn't explain. The sample is small, but it *does* support the results of the Sturrock survey. Some fifty-seven percent expressed interest in UFO's and felt they deserved study, but only by scientists! A number of them stated that they would discuss UFO's and even personal sightings but only under strict anonymity. All were deathly afraid of publicity. So—little has changed—the Committee Complex is with us as strong as ever.

J. Allen Hynek

CORRESPONDENCE

NOTE: One of our correspondents has raised some questions about the value of the news media in reporting UFO events. While he has requested that we not print his letter per se, we would like to take the opportunity to comment on our experience with the role of the news services in UFOlogy.

IUR constantly reviews news clippings submitted through the generosity of individuals, and by the UFO newsclipping services, in search of articles on sightings for which we have performed our own investigation. Very often, the result is a feeling of disappointment at the less than rigorous approach that is often adopted by the news media toward the UFO subject. Sightings which IUR had discovered to have been caused by stimuli like stars or ad planes were reported at face value ("flashing light changing colors" or "domed disc with rotating lights"). No real effort was put forth to follow up the case. Other problems include lack of sufficient information on a sighting to come to a decision on it, incorrect assumptions (two unrelated reports in the same area at different times written up as a single UFO), and the treatment of UFO news for amusement value only. Worst of all is the impression offered by the media that UFO's are reported very rarely; news agencies are well aware that sightings are a daily occurrence (indeed, IUR is probably only scratching the surface:), but they make a celebrity out of specific cases arbitrarily to avoid "oversaturating" the public.

IN CURRENT JOURNALS

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF NORTHERN UFO ACTIVITY IN 1975 —BUFORA Journal, Jan.-Feb. 1977, by Jenny Randles.

". . . a study was made of results by day of week (of 128 reports during 1975) with interesting results. This seems totally to refute the Wednesday law as proposed by Keel (in Operation Trojan Horse) . . . The week end minimum phenomenon is also apparently reversed."

FALKVILLE CREATURE PHOTOGRAPHS ANALYZED—MUFON UFO Journal, Nov. 1976 by William Spaulding.

"The Falkville, Alabama occupant photographs were subjected to the following computer-aid evaluations: edge enhancement, color contouring, pixel distortion analysis, and digitizing . . . The outer garment of the alleged creature is a hot suit . . At best these pictures represent a humorous attempt at hoaxing a space creature . . . "

BOOK REVIEW

UFOS: THE AMERICAN SCENE, by Michael Hervey, 1976, St. Martin's Press, Inc., Printed in Great Britain

The dust cover tells us that Mr. Hervey is an Australian gossip columnist, an actor, "one of the world's leading authorities on UFO's," and that he has more than 30 books to his credit. *UFOs: The American Scene* certainly must not be one of them! It is nothing more than a badly organized 200-page collection of undocumented hear-say and newspaper clippings, replete with technical errors in the text and errors in the publisher's editing. For example, the author refers to "Dr. Stan Friedman of Westinghouse Research Laboratory in Pittsburgh" (Mr. Friedman, a nuclear physicist-lecturer, left Westinghouse in 1968) and to "Dr. Lee Strinkle" (Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, of the University of Wyoming.) The reader must continually refer back several paragraphs to establish location ("the following morning, many small mysterious craters were found on Highway 55 . . . ") or year ("A large object which appeared to be about the size of the moon, at about 8 pm on January 26.") The index is sorely deficient and offers only a token sampling of names, places, and the names of newspapers. The book's only redeeming feature is a fairly-well written account of Ted Phillips' investigation of the Delphos, Kansas case—a section totally atypical of the balance of the book. The book ends abruptly, with no concluding chapter, summary, analysis, or theory. Turning the last page, one is transported from one vacuum to another. *UFOs: The American Scene* is not recommended for the scientifically oriented, critical, or sophisticated reader.

—Jennie Zeidman

FOREIGN FORUM

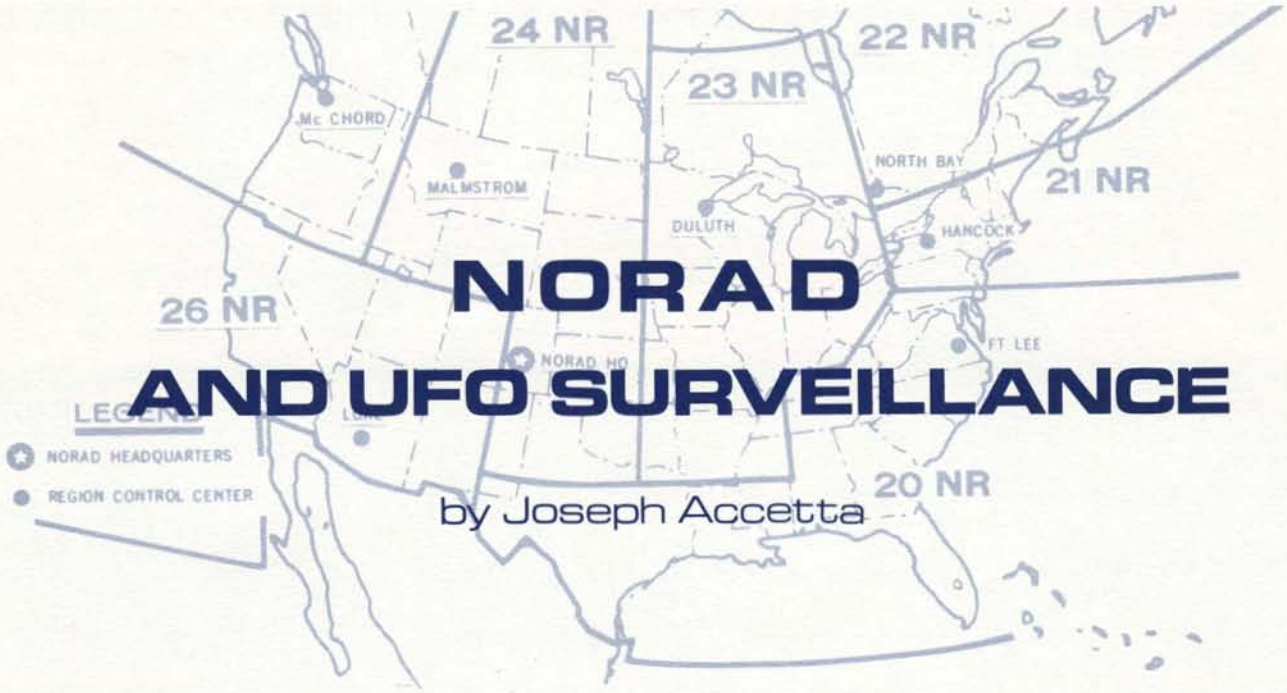
This is a representative sampling of UFO sightings from around the world. While we can not exert the same degree of control over these cases we can on domestic ones, it is of value to see that the same characteristics are reported for this phenomenon abroad as in the U.S.

AUSTRALIA: Bondi, February 9, 1977. Dozens of people inquired to the newspaper about the nature of a high altitude light seen hovering in the sky above town for "several minutes" about 5:20 AM before shooting off from the west toward the east. The air traffic control tower at Sydney Airport affirmed that the light was not an aircraft.
SOURCE: The Sydney Mirror, Feb. 9, 1977

CANADA: near Docetteville, app. February 10, 1977. Tom Thibault, alone on the road to Southville at 12:45 AM, had his car pushed back 250 feet by a 30- by 60-foot object hovering silently 10-12 feet above the road. A blue light emerging from the object over the car created an electric shock and an unbearable noise. The witness appears to have suffered a memory loss, and still gets headaches when he drives by the area.
SOURCE: The Digby Courier, Feb. 24, 1977

EGYPT: near Qarun, March 8, 1977. Capt. Assapa, Flight Officer Berehan, and Flight Engineer Negassa of Ethiopian Airlines flight ET-701 were flying SE 60 miles from Qarun, Egypt at 10:34 PM GMT. They witnessed a formation of 8 lights, 2 larger ones in the lead, 70 degrees above the SW horizon. It was seen to fly toward the SE horizon in 2½ minutes. The lights were described as being as bright as the moon and the color of "arch welding".
SOURCE: Direct via Herb Roth, IUR's aeronautical consultant.

NEW ZEALAND: Seatoun, March 22, 1977. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Evison watch a bright stationary light an estimated 10 miles north of them for 15 minutes in a clear sky at 10:20 AM. Seen through a telescope as elongated with black vertical lines (and photographed), the moon-size light slowly faded in place in the sky.
SOURCE: ECRA Report, New Zealand, March-April 1977.



NORAD AND UFO SURVEILLANCE

by Joseph Accetta

One of the most frustrating aspects of the UFO problem is the absence of repeatibility under controlled conditions so requisite to the present state of established science. There is an acute lack of "hard" evidence, not effectually to establish the existence of the phenomenon but rather to determine its nature and ultimate cause. Events often cited as hard evidence are the radar-visual cases, in which a visual observation of a UFO has been time correlated with a radar observation of an unknown object. These cases represent a relatively small fraction of total sightings however, because of the controversial nature, a rather large number of words have been both spoken and written about them. In this article a few more will be added, hopefully highlighting the fundamental issues and further, describing the intracontinental system of radars currently in operation with particular emphasis on the North American Air Defense Command, (NORAD) and its role in space surveillance.

It has probably occurred to even the most casual of UFO researchers that an organized radar investigation could be of immense value in getting to the bottom of this mystery. Regrettably, not everyone owns a radar set and so this kind of research transcends the resources of most of us. Thus, the capabilities required for this kind of effort revert to the realm of large organizations or the federal government which may or may not be favorably disposed to carry out such a project. Certainly the resources exist however they are largely committed to other rather important functions such as national security, air traffic control and weather observations.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT RADAR SYSTEMS?

The largest collective resources of course are the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD), which is staffed by the U.S. and Canadian Air Forces, The Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) network of traffic control radars and the National Weather Service (NWS).

The NWS operates a network of approximately 90 weather radar sites. The range of these radars are typically 100 miles but because their frequencies of operation are unique to weather observations, they are not well suited to aircraft surveillance.

The FAA operates a network of several hundred short and long range radars for air traffic control and, of course, they are specifically designed for aircraft detection. Operating ranges run to several hundred miles. Most of these radars are in use in high traffic areas where precise position information is required.

The NWS and FAA networks are much less useful with respect to the problem at hand than NORAD for two principle reasons that will be stated without elaboration: signal to noise ratio, and command and control.

WHAT ARE NORAD'S FUNCTIONS?

The mission of NORAD is fourfold: to provide warning of attack on North America by bombers or ballistic missiles, to provide satellite surveillance and identification; to provide detection and identification of unknown aircraft and to provide defense against attacking bombers.

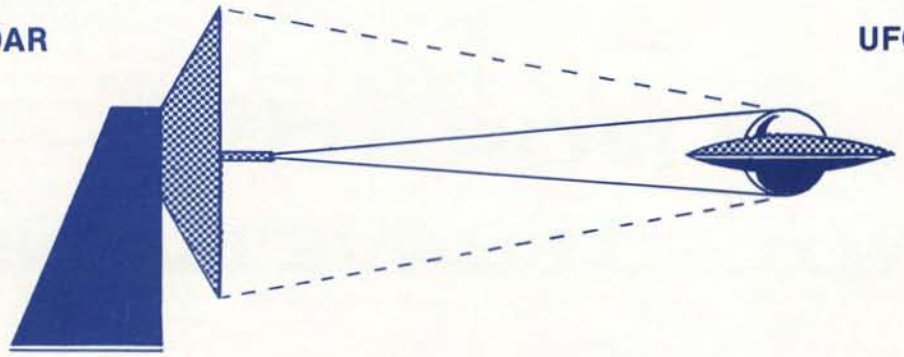
NORAD's Distant Early Warning Line (DEW) has approximately 31 radar stations which stretch 3300 miles from Point Lay in Northwest Alaska to Greenland's east coast. Additionally, there are two radars in Iceland and 96 long range radars in the continental United States and Canada, some of which are shared by the FAA. For coastal surveillance, NORAD controls an antiquated fleet of radar laden EC-121 aircraft. Finally, a remnant of the ABM project, the long range perimeter acquisition radar, is in operation in North Dakota.

The Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) is specifically designed for extremely long range (3000 mi) ballistic missile detection and trajectory prediction. There are three large radars in this system located at Clear, Alaska, Thule, Greenland and Flyingdales Moor, England.

The Space Detection and Tracking System (SPADATS) is a network of sensors at various global locations for the detection and tracking of satellites. The radar components of this system reputed to be capable of detecting a basketball sized object at 2000 miles, are located at Shemya Alaska, Diyarbakir, Turkey and Eglin AFB, Florida.

The U.S. Naval Space Surveillance System maintains a radar "fence" network of 3 transmitters and six receivers stretched across the southern U.S. This system together with some

WHAT MAKES A TARGET DETECTABLE?



POWER TRANSMITTED
TRANSMITTER WAVELENGTH
ANTENNA GAIN
RECEIVER SENSITIVITY

TARGET RANGE
EFFECTIVE AREA
TRANSPONDER?
ATMOSPHERIC EFFECTS

It has been experimentally determined that it is possible to deliberately deceive radar systems and that it is also possible to receive false information under perfectly natural circumstances. In short, there are a number of complications, so discretion is warranted.

of the BMEWS sites also contributes data to SPADATS.

The SPADATS system possesses a number of interesting capabilities. There are some 4220 satellites orbiting the earth, 10% of which are active. To keep track of this swarm of orbiting junk, SPADATS makes about 15,000 observations per day, continuously cross checking these objects against existing catalogs. This system also measures and catalogs the orbital parameters and predicts reentry dates and impact points for decaying objects. Over 9500 man-made orbiting objects have been cataloged since 1957.

SPADATS data is (and has been) available to government agencies and authorized contractors. Unclassified data is available to anyone with a reasonably legitimate need and corresponding funds.

WHAT ABOUT THE UFO'S?

Of the thousands of daily observations, a number fall into the category of unknowns or "bogies." These are objects whose characteristics do not resemble any orbiting satellite and whose trajectories are principally ballistic. They number about eight to nine hundred a day!

Three known sources of these bogies are electromagnetic noise pulses, micrometeors and reentering satelliges or debris. The SPADATS system is heavily computerized because of the large number of observations it must process and record. This file or listing of unknowns is an automated output of the data-processing system and since it is of little significance to the NORAD mission, it is not maintained for long periods of time.

These files, when processed, could be of some interest to researchers, for example, in meteor studies and in passing, it's worthy of note, that the majority of meteors entering the earth's atmosphere are much to small to be directly detected by radar. They become visible to radar because of the ionization trails generated by atmospheric friction. Since the velocity of a meteor typically ranges from 10-80 km/sec with a small number of exceptions, they are somewhat distinguishable from aircraft or ballistic missiles.

Equally worthy of note is that two studies that date back to the 1950's showed that the vast majority of unidentifieds in the bogie files were due to auroral effects.

The bogie files, which appear to be of the most interest, are not normally processed for two principal reasons: processing is expensive and the file is of little military significance.

The daily processing task would be a non-trivial problem because of the necessity of cross correlating 20 or so measured parameters on 800-900 objects. Computer time on a CDC-7600 costs from $600-2500 per hour depending on the source. At a rate of $600 per hour and one hour per day, for example, it would cost roughly $180,000 per year for processing. If indeed it could be shown that this approach would yield fruitful results, it would be worth many times this cost (and of course it should be noted that it could probably be done for much less by enterprising individuals with unimaginable ways and means). Nevertheless, it is a matter of judgement whether the NORAD bogie file, by itself, could yield conclusive information. That would be a quantum jump.

Assuming that a special study was initiated, the minimum ingredients of a less spectacular but valuable result would be a clear cut demonstration that a given object was not a meteor, noise source, reentering satellite, ballistic missile, anomalous propagation or malfunction. Unfortunately, this approach yields what the object wasn't and not what the object was. This is not a pessimistic conclusion for these very circumstances would be sufficient to show that unidentified objects, regardless of cause or origin, do enter our atmosphere. And that, after all, would be interesting.

The author wishes to express his appreciation to NORAD/ADCOM for facts and specifics concerning NORAD.

FOUR UFO'S SELECTED FROM 79 U.S. CASES: Mar. 15-Apr. 14

HOW WE LEARN OF UFO'S: UFO reports are from news departments, civilian organizations and individuals all over the world, but most of our reports stem from the Center for UFO Studies' UFO Central Hotline. This is a 24-hour, toll-free telephone service for the exclusive use of law enforcement agencies, FAA agencies, planetaria and other formal channels. This gives us the chance to follow up *all* cases rapidly for first-hand information with unlimited long-distance capability. Other advantages include screening of the hoaxers Indeed, police who patrol when others are asleep are encouraged to fill this void.

HOW WE DEFINE UFO'S: Any anomalous aerial phenomena whose appearance and/or behavior can't be ascribed to conventional objects and effects—not only by the original witnesses, but also by analysts who possess technical qualifications the original observer may lack.

NL—Nocturnal Light: distant anomalous lights seen in the night sky
DD—Daylight Discs: distant disc-like objects seen during the day
RV—Radar/Visual: UFOs seen by radar and vision simultaneously

CE I—Close Encounter of the First Kind: UFOs seen within 500 feet
CE II—Close Encounter of the Second Kind: CE I's that leave behind physical traces
CE III—Close Encounter of the Third Kind: CE I with humanoid occupants seen

HOW WE NUMBER CASES: All UFO sightings will receive a three element number which will serve as a case "name". The first numbers refer to the volume and issue number of the edition that contains the case, and the last number refers to the order it arrived (example: 1-1-7, the seventh case of the first issue).

1—Confirmed Identifieds

These reports completely break down as having commonplace explanations when subjected to rigorous scrutiny. We have either correlated them directly to some stimulus present at that time or, at least, have judged them to be well within the bounds of contemporary knowledge. This month's IFO reports were generated by the following phenomena:

There are 14 recent cases still being investigated—the results will be made known in the news page.

Stars and Planets	18	Helicopters	3
Meteors	10	Non-UFO's	3
Ad Planes	10	Balloon	2
Aircraft	6	Flare	1
Re-entry	5	IFO TOTAL	61
Searchlights	3		

2—UFOs of Limited Merit

These reports are of intermediate stature. They are UFOs in the sense that we don't know what they are, but for a variety of stated *reasons, they are not really worthy of closer scrutiny.*

CASE	TYPE	DATE	TIME	DURATION	WITNESSES	PLACE
2-5-3	NL	3-17-77	7:27 PM	4-5 min.	1, plus	Denby, VA

Electric company lineman 18-20 miles west of Newport News watched a dark cigar shape "50 yards long" (the width of the full moon) with six red lights move ponderously within a block of him low in the eastern sky. Relatively still for 2 minutes, it retreated back to the east in 2 minutes time.

A similar account was phoned in to WAVY-TV from Chesapeake, not far away, for the same night. Yet no flight plan for any "blimp" was filed with the Air Traffic Controls at Portsmouth and Newport News airports. No balloon or other launches from the Wallops Island station.

2-5-43 CE I 3-29-77 12:30 AM 5 min. 1 West Decatur, PA

45-year old man in an open rural area witnesses an "upside-down teardrop" 100-200 feet long and 60 feet wide drift in from the east at treetop level (the treetops suggesting turbulence). With the point of the teardrop pointing upward, the object had a large panel (20 feet by 40 feet) of green fluorescent light on the bottom. Drifting west into a field, the greyish-brown object made a sound like a "rope spinning in the air". Climbing at a 45-degree angle to a half-mile up in 15 seconds, it levelled off and accelerated toward the SW 25-degrees up in 8 seconds.

Single witness. Two attempts at photographing the object failed to work. Neighbor's dogs barked, but not his own. Witness claimed to have burning eyes and headaches but his claims are varying as told to different people. He also demonstrated some preconceived ideas about the incident (tire tracks in field equal UFO-abducted car!). No breakage of the treetops in question. Nothing seen by the Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center or Mid-State Airport. No additional reports in Clearfield police, Philipsburg police, the sheriff's department, the state police, the local newspaper or WCPA. A "renegade" hot air balloon with burner but no gondola was reported in the same area two days later.

2-5-46 NL 4-1-77 10:40 PM 10 min. 1, plus De Ruyter, NY

A 27-year old housewife was driving her 3 young children south on the west side of town when she found herself overtaking, and driving underneath, a 35-40-foot object. Hovering 30 feet above the maple trees, the distinctly-outlined saucer had 3 outer red and blue lights, and a sequential series of red lights in 2 rows on the center bottom. No sound, clear sky, stationary over road. One half mile away, a man and his son went in search of a red glow without being able to overtake the source.

No confirmation of object by Syracuse Airport or Radar Approach Control in Rome, N.Y. Not the nearest ad plane company. No additional reports to the police. Possible aircraft with sequential strobes.

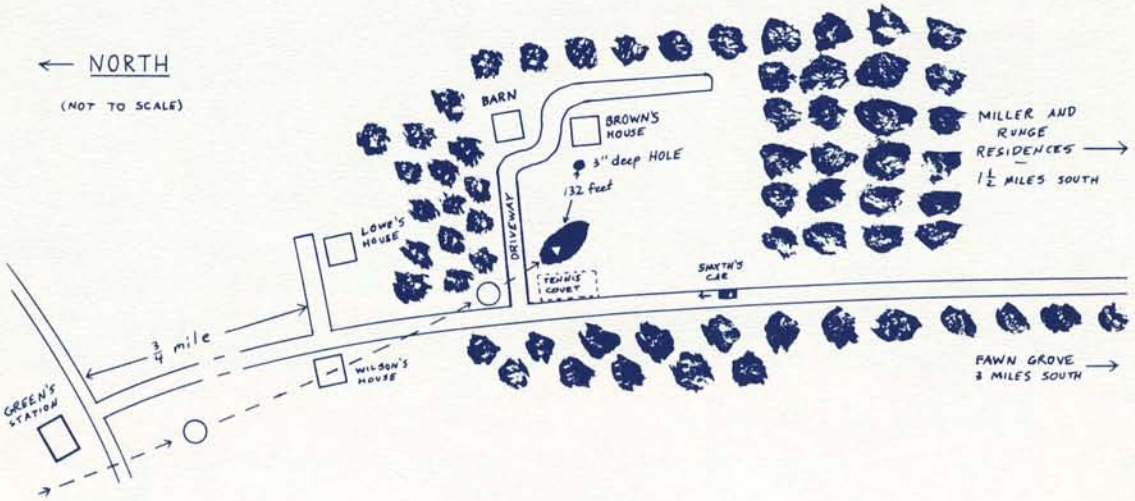
2-5-51 DD 4-5-77 2:17 PM 1-1½min. 1 Deerfield, IL

Pilot driving on I-94 northbound on a cold, cloudy day (overcast at 5000 feet). He saw the object coming toward him (southbound) first in the distant north, and then directly above him a minute later. Object looked like a silver mushroom three times as big as the moon. Moved silently SE toward downtown Chicago, agaisnt wind. *Single witness; no one in this daylight populated area reported it but him. Unseen by Palwaukee or other NW airports in the immediate area.*

3—Case of High Merit

CASE NUMBER 2-4-44

Eleven witnesses in six parties watched a red ball of fire the size of the full moon drift over their houses and alight on the ground, leaving nothing but a large patch of burnt grass—with a mysteriously unscathed triangular area delineated by 3 holes at the vertices! The witnesses include Mrs. Thelma Lowe (33) and her 9-year old son, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wilson (70 & 66), Mrs. Sara Green and her 17-year old daughter, Mrs. Everett Miller (30) and her 11-year old son, Mrs. W. E. Runge II (27) and a friend (28), and Robert Smyth (23). A truly intriguing physical trace case!



ENVIRONMENT

DATE: Tuesday, March 8, 1977. **TIME:** 7:30 PM, EST.
PLACE: Gatchellville Rd., 1 mile S of downtown Gatchellville; seen outdoors in a residential area with wooded orchards.

APPEARANCE

The object was described as appearing like a red ball of fire, the angular size of the full moon. Silent and self-luminous, the distinctly-outlined sphere left no trail or haze, and no sensation of heat or odor while airborne.

MOTION

The red ball was observed by the witnesses *north* of the landing site to glide slowly in a straight path from north to south. Rough triangulation suggests that the object was no more than a few hundred feet above the witnesses' houses. Most of the witnesses reported seeing the object for 2-5 minutes duration, alleging that it silently swayed left and right in a leaf-like motion, moving horizontally over the ground. The object was seen to head southbound toward Robert Brown's farm. The witnesses to the *south* saw the object in the northern sky for a similar duration; it then dropped down into the trees in the direction of the Browns' farm. By 7:30, Mr. Smyth reported a grass fire at the farm (without seeing the object itself); no one saw any object leaving the area, but unidentified witnesses told the volunteer fire captain on the scene that a "red ball of fire" caused the blaze.

WEATHER

The weather conditions for that time according to the National Weather Service: clear skies, winds from the W (260 degrees) at 7 m.p.h. Visibility 15 miles. Temperature of 50 degrees with 42% humidity.

At 1000 feet, the wind was from the SE at 20 m.p.h.

WITNESS REACTION

The object certainly had no difficulty garnering a large number of witnesses, yet none were especially frightened by the apparition so much as they were baffled by it, and unable to convince themselves of what they saw. The witnesses tried out a number of "explanations" on themselves, such as "meteor" or "burning debris" without much success.

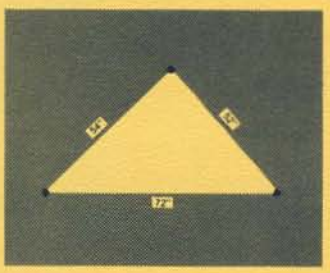
ON THE CASE

Original source and primary investigator: John Lutz, who contacted all the witnesses directly. None of the following agencies logged visual or radar confirmation of "unusual traffic" for that time and place: Air Route Traffic Control Center at Washington, D.C. and New York City, and the airports at York and Lancaster. Coincidentally, there is a north-south air corridor directly over Fawn Grove (Victor 23). No orbital re-entry was noted by NORAD, although the described behavior of the object didn't really suggest one.

Radioactivity measurements were made at the site; however, various soil samples are being sent to IUR for further analysis. A magnetometer revealed no variations around the affected area.

Mr. Brown, the owner of the farm, was away from home that evening, but informed Mr. Lutz that there were neither holes nor burned areas on his property prior to his leaving the farm around 6 PM the same night. No surveying tripods had been used, either.

EFFECTS



PHYSICAL TRACE: No sign of the "ball of fire" remains. Within a patch of burned grass 100 feet long by 30 feet wide is an unscathed area in the shape of a triangle! There are 3 holes located at the vertices of the triangle that are 1 inch in diameter and 2¾ inches deep. There is also a 1-foot diameter hole located 132 feet SE of the Triangular area. No fragments could be found, but the soil was burned black to a depth of 3 inches.

RADIOACTIVITY: Researcher John Lutz and a certified radiological technician, Courtney Jordan, ran 2 separate Geiger counters at the scene on the Saturday after the incident, measuring beta at a distance of 3 inches above the ground. Typical readings of .02-.04 MR/HR were encountered away from the burned grass. Within the burned area, both counters agreed upon an increase to .08-.10 MR/HR, and a maximum reading of .15 within the unburned triangular area.

POSSIBLE INFLUENCE: When the object passed over Mr. Wilson's house, a loud noise was heard from the basement, accompanied by the smell of gasoline. Checking his furnace, the former civil engineer found a strong concentration of fumes in the furnace room, and concluded that the sphere "caused" a downdraft in his chimney.

TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

ASTRONOMY, METEOROLOGY, AERONAUTICS: All consultants have indicated that no conventional explanation is tenable here. The triangulated altitude, speed, and duration rule out "meteor". The object's motion opposes the wind, ruling out a weather-based scheme. The large apparent size and silence rules out any aircraft explanations.

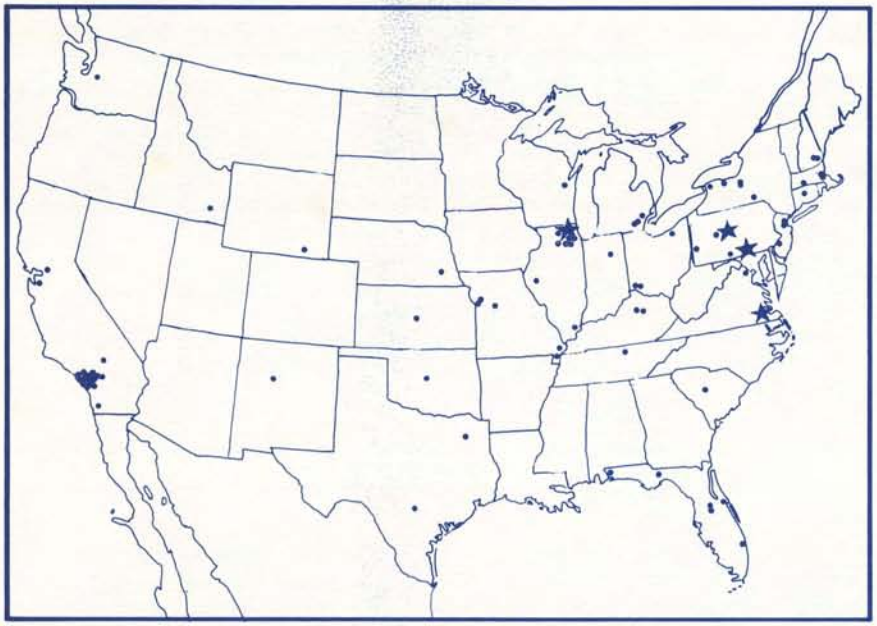
SOCIOLOGY: Dr. Robert Hall, University of Illinois, Circle Campus:
A major strength of the report is the existence of multiple witnesses in separate locations and separate groups with mutually supportive stories. The merit of the report is attenuated somewhat by two weaknesses that can no longer be remedied: (1) The investigation occurred several days after the event, thus leaving time for possible contact among witnesses and possible rumor activity to influence reports. (2) No information was collected about who had discussed it with whom and when, and no time of conducting the interviews was recorded.

In such cases, information should be obtained about contact (direct or indirect) with other witnesses, preferably including probing to determine how much each witness knows about what others saw.

CONCLUSIONS

Probability of:	Total Hoax:	Natural Cause:	Genuine UFO:
	1%	19%	80%

PROFILE: MARCH, 1977



● —IFO ★ —UFO

Stars and Bright Planets	25
Meteors	12
Ad Planes	11
Re-entries	10
Aircraft	5
Helicopters	3
Kite	2
Non-UFO	2
Balloon	2
Bird	1
Searchlight	1
Moondog	1
Prank Balloon	1
Flare	1
Unreliable Witness	1
NL	3
CE I	1
Total Number of Reports	82
Average Per Day	2.6
Peak Activity (7 cases)	3/20 3/26
Total Number of UFO's	4
Total Number of IFO's	78
UFO's: 4.9%	*IFO's:* 95.1%

The large number of meteors was caused for the most part by one event in California (see Commentary). Similarly, two re-entries with 5 witnesses each caused the large number of those sightings. The "non-UFO's" include a glow on the horizon and two lights on a distant hillside. As the number of reports increases with warmer weather, the relatively constant number of UFO's results in a reduced percentage of UFO's for March.

UFO's include 2-4-44, 2-4-46, 2-5-3, and 2-5-43. Verifications and complete details of these evaluations are available upon request.

COMMENTARY

MULTIPLE WITNESSES

by Allan Hendry
Managing Editor

Two incidents took place this month that were noteworthy UFO-logically, not for the stimuli behind the reports but for the manners in which they were perceived. Specifically, the cases offer food for thought on the issue of multiple witnesses to UFO sightings:

CALIFORNIA, March 22—Much press attention was given to a sighting of two lights moving eastward for a duration of 15 seconds. NORAD indicated that it wasn't a re-entry; no one saw it on local radars, and it was seen by witnesses 350 miles apart from north to south, so the high altitude inferred coupled with the descriptions provided all suggest a meteor that split up in the earth's atmosphere. The intriguing aspect of this sighting is that it happened at 3: 30 in the morning; yet it generated "UFO" reports to IUR from 6 county sheriff departments, 8 police officers, and from 9 pilots at San Francisco, Los Angeles, and March AFB . . . all occupations deemed highly desirable for UFO witnesses! This is significant because, while the meteors could be seen over a broad area, it has been previously suggested that there are no potential witnesses available at 3 AM. Had this been a "real" UFO, we certainly would have been in great shape!

OHIO, March 20—A couple in a car near Amelia, Ohio watched a bright glowing globe much larger than the full moon appear in front of them, disappear for a few seconds, re-appear again at a lower angle, and disappear from sight. The couple concluded that the object was 30-40 yards ahead of them and 50-60 feet up; what they didn't know was that other people were seeing the same thing in Ohio, Tennessee, and Missouri, because it was the third and fourth stages of a MSV/Athena rocket re-entering *under power* out over the Atlantic! This became clear only because of the presence of additional witnesses. If we had been at the mercy of the original couple's testimony, we would have had to conclude that they had a Close Encounter of the First Kind!

(cont.)
techniques will appear in a future issue of IUR.

EDITOR OF OFFICIAL UFO RESIGNS - Dennis William Hauck, 32, has resigned from his position as Editor of OFFICIAL UFO magazine (published nine times a year by Countrywide Publications in New York). The deciding issue for Mr. Hauck was the insistence of the publisher to run a letter on the front cover of the July issue allegedly sent from a frantic mother who wants to report that her child Ronnie has been substituted by an alien creature. Dennis Hauck has informed IUR that the letter and its "analysis" are the fictitious products of the publisher himself, and should not be added to the literature as a real case. (When you see the letter on the cover of this issue, pay particular attention to the highly-legible handwriting performed by a professional artist. Also note on the second page of the letter that the child's name gets misspelled! - Allan Hendry)

UFO ANALYSIS - Three of the four cases that were still under investigation from the last issue were ascribable to aircraft lights and a "moondog". One was judged to be a Nocturnal Light of limited merit:

CASE	*TYPE*	*DATE*	*TIME*	*DURATION*	*WITNESSES*	*PLACE*
2-4-46	*NL*	*3-9-77*	*10:40 PM*	*1 hr., 30 min.*	*4*	*Long Grove, Ill.*

Four adults were attracted outdoors onto open property by a loud "crackling" sound without any apparent source. Searching at random with a powerful (½-mile) spotlight, they found an object 60 degrees up in the clear northern sky, about 1000 feet up. The object was described as a white, tapered rectangle with a black silhouette behind it about the size of the full moon. They watched it perform several "evasive" actions within the beam, and checked up on it for an hour-and-a-half, until at 12 midnight it vanished within the beam... and the noise went away simultaneously.

No additional reports; nothing noted by the local police, sheriff dept., or O'Hare airport. Interesting that the spotlight was necessary in order to see this UFO.

Of the 14 remaining cases, there were 2 stars, 2 balloons, 1 aircraft, and 1 streetlight! 3 were NL's of limited merit:

2-5-57	*NL*	*4-8-77*	*2:10 AM*	*2 hrs.*	*2*	*Cedar Springs, MI*

A couple reported seeing three objects ranging in size and shape from a star to a domed disc much larger than the full moon. The latter was the most intriguing, curving around them to the west in 10 minutes where it hovered over the trees in the distance for 3-4 minutes flashing different colors, and descended, lighting up the area with red flashes for 5 minutes.

The other two descriptions were far less provocative and may involve stars and aircraft in the excitement of the main event. Nothing noted by the sheriff, State Police, Grand Rapids airport, North Cedar and North Kent airports. No helicopters from the police, airports, or Sparta Aviation known to be up at the time. Possible physical trace found by local investigator Dr. Willnus under analysis.

The other two cases (2-5-58 and 2-5-60) will be outlined next issue along with the results of four more cases still under investigation from this month.